

ATTACHMENT**VERSION OF CLAIMS WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

5. (Three times amended) An acicular body comprising at least one oxide of at least one metal selected from the group consisting of Groups IIA, IIIA, [and] IIIB[, of the Periodic Table], rare earth metals, and mixtures thereof; said acicular body having a polygonal cross section and a cross-sectional dimension greater than about 1 μm .

32. (Twice amended) An acicular body comprising at least one oxide of a metal selected from the group consisting of Groups IB, IIA, IIB, IIIA, IIIB, IVA, IVB, VA, VB, VIA, VIB, VIIA, VIIB, [and] VIIIA [of the Periodic Table], rare earth metals, and mixtures thereof; said acicular body having a polygonal cross section and a cross-sectional dimension greater than about 1 μm .